Private Secvor power plants in Maharashtra and Assam

318. DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR:
SHRIMATI BASANTI SARMA:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any more scope for setting up private sector power plants in Maharashtra and Assam;

(b) if so, what is the capacity up to which such plants can be set up;

(c) what steps are being taken to encourage setting up of private sector power plants in the above mentioned States; and

(d) what is the average time within which clearance is given to such proposals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL): (a) and (b) Maharashtra State Electricity Board (MSEB) has intimated that at present there are no sanctioned projects in Maharashtra, which could be offered to the private developers. However, if fuel-linkags could be tied up, the following power projects may be considered for development:

(1) Bhusawal 'B' project (2x500 MW) (coal based).

(2) Paras Project (250 MW) (coal based).

(3) Rewas Mandwa project PH-I (410 MW) (gas based).

Government of Assam has intimated that they have already signed MOUs with private developers for completion of Karbi Langpi HEP (2X50 MW) and 4 gas based power projects at Amguri (270 MW), Banskhandi (22.5 MW), Adamfilla (15 MW) and Namrup Extension (90 MW) and once these projects get completed they would meet the requirement of the state upto 2000 AD and at present no other power project is under consideration by them and also there is enough scope for more hydro (upto 450 MW) and gas based projects in Assam.

(c) In the context of paucity of resources with Central/State/PSUs and SEBs and to bridge the gap between rapidly growing demand for electricity and supply, a policy to encourage greater private sector investment in the power sector had been formulated in 1991 and is currently under implementation. The response to the policy including in the state of Maharashtra and Assam is encouraging and the Government is closely monitoring the progress of private power projects with a view to expedite their finalisation.

(d) Setting up of any power project involves obtaining a number of statutory and non-statutory clearances from various Central/State agencies. Time taken up by Central Electricity Authority (CEA) for according their clearance depends upon the tieing up of necessary inputs/clearances, firmed cost estimates and tentative financial plan by the project authorities. The project reports for Dabhol Power Project and Bhadravati TPSs were cleared by CEA within 7-8 months respectively from the date of the receipt of Detailed Project Report. The other clearances also take time.

Gas based power plants in Tamil Nadu

319. SHRI S AUSTIN: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up two gas-based small power projects in Tamil Nadu in near